

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed July 7, 2004. Claims 1-19 are pending and have been rejected. The applicant notes with appreciation that claims 1-19 would be allowable by timely filing a terminal disclaimer, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.321(c), and a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.73, both of which are being filed concurrently herewith. However, the applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's obviousness-type double patenting rejections.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-9 of US Patent No. 6,736,688, which is commonly owned with the present application. The Examiner alleges that claims 1-9 of the present application claim a watercraft apparatus that includes a propulsion structure that is coupled to a body with a pivoting structure, instead of a manually propelled personal flotation apparatus with a propulsion structure that is pivotally coupled to a body with a pivoting structure. The applicant respectfully disagrees. While the Examiner's interpretation of claims 1-9 of the present application are accurate, his interpretation of claims 1-9 of the '688 patent are incorrect. Rather, claims 1-9 of the '688 patent claim, in part, that the propulsion structure is coupled to a side of the body with a pivoting structure. Nonetheless, since the present application is commonly owned with the '688 patent, the applicant has filed herewith the requisite terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully asserts that the Examiner's rejection has herein been overcome.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 10-18 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patent over claims 1-9 of the '688 patent. The Examiner alleges that claims 10-18 of the present application claim a propulsion structure coupled to a watercraft and claims 1-9 of the '688 patent a propulsion structure that is pivotally coupled to a body of a

manually propelled personal flotation apparatus, would have been obvious to one skilled in the art. The applicant respectfully asserts that the Examiner is misinterpreting the claims. Claims 10-18 of the present application claim a propulsion structure for a water craft, while claims 1-9 of the '688 patent claim a manually propelled personal floatation device comprising a propulsion structure. Nonetheless, since the present application is commonly owned with the '688 patent, the applicant has filed herewith the requisite terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully asserts that the Examiner's rejection has herein been overcome.

The Examiner has also rejected claim 19 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patent over claim 10 of the '688 patent. Since the present application is commonly owned with the '688 patent, the applicant has filed herewith the requisite terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully asserts that the Examiner's rejection has herein been overcome.

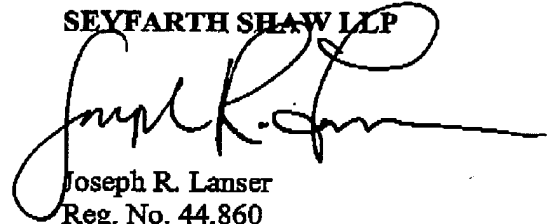
The applicant has also herein amended claims 1, 10, 15 and 16.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully asserts that the claims of the present application are now in a condition for allowance. Therefore, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP



Joseph R. Lanser
Reg. No. 44,860
Attorney for Assignee

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP
55 East Monroe Street, 42nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603-5803
phone: (312)346-8000
facsimile: (312)269-8869
customer number: 27717

09/02/04 10:18 FAX 312 739 6289
09/05/04 14:00 FAX 312 739 6289

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP
SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 36907/400190

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Garwood

Serial Number: 10/708,627

Filing Date: March 16, 2004

For: MANUALLY PROPELLED
PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICE

)
) Art Unit: 3617
)
) Examiner: Olson, Lars Al.
)
) Conf. No.: 2626
)

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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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RoseAnn White 8-5-04
RoseAnn White Date

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the following documents regarding the above-captioned application:

1. Amendment and Remarks to Office Action;
2. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b); and
3. Terminal Disclaimer.

Respectfully Submitted,

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		PATENT	
		Attorney Docket No. 36907/400190	
<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>			
Into application of: Garwood Serial Number: 10/708,627 Filing Date: March 16, 2004 For: MANUALLY PROPELLED PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICE) Art Unit: 3617) Examiner: Olson, Lars A.) Conf. No.: 2626	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Technology Center 3600, located at 700-672-6000 on August 5, 2004. <u>Robert White</u> 8-5-04 Robert White Date	
Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450			
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Dear Sir:			
Enclosed please find the following documents regarding the above-captioned application:			
1. Amendment and Remarks to Office Action; 2. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b); and 3. Terminal Disclaimer.			
Respectfully Submitted,			
 Joseph R. Lamer Reg. No. 44,860 Attorney in Residence			
SEYFARTH SHAW LLP 55 East Monroe Street, 42nd Floor Chicago, Illinois 60603-3803 phone: (312) 546-8000 telex: (312) 269-8869 cable: 27717			
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